

CLAIMS

5 1/ A method of manipulating a sent e-mail, addressed by a sender to at least one addressee comprising the steps of:

- routing a modification message over a data network to a server, on which at least the body of said sent e-mail is stored, said modification message being sent by said sender and dedicated to modify said e-mail body; and
- 10 - modifying said e-mail's body at said server according to said modification message, if said e-mail's body has not been accessed by any of said addressees.

15 2/ A method according to claim 1, wherein said manipulation of said e-mail consists in deleting said e-mail body or modifying a part of said e-mail body, said sender being informed by said server if said manipulation has been executed or not.

20 3/ A server to be part of an e-mail system, said server being able to receive, from a data network, an e-mail addressed by a sender to at least one addressee, said server comprising:

- means for storing at least the body of said received e-mail together with an access code;
- means for sending to each addressee a notification message of said e-mail, said notification message containing the access code for accessing said e-mail body;
- means for handling a status storage indicating at least whether said e-mail body has been accessed by one of said addressees;
- means for receiving a modification message, dedicated to modify said e-mail body; and

10 - means for modifying said e-mail body according to said modification message, if said e-mail's body has not been accessed by any of said addressees.

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4/ A server according to claim 3, characterised in that it also comprises:

15 - means for sending a message to the sender of said modification message to notify if the modification has been executed or not.

5/ A server according to claim 3, characterised in that it also comprises:

20 - means for sending a message to the sender of said e-mail containing said access code associated to said e-mail.

6/ A server according to claim 3, characterised in that it also comprises:

25 - means for downloading said e-mail body to one of said addressee providing said access code;

- means for deleting said e-mail body at said server when each one of said addressees has accessed said e-mail body at said server.

7/ A server according to claim 3, characterised in that it also comprises means

- for storing the header of said e-mail additionally to said e-mail body; and
- for executing an authentication procedure, when a user tries to access said e-mail body by providing said access code.

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8/ A server according to claim 3, characterised in that it also comprises:

- means for storing the header of said e-mail additionally to said e-mail body;
- means for receiving a modification message, dedicated to modify said e-mail header only or additionally to said e-mail body; and
- means for modifying said e-mail header according to said modification message, if said e-mail has not been accessed by any of said addressees.

15 9/ A server according to claim 3, characterised in that it also comprises:

- means for storing the header of said e-mail additionally to said e-mail body;
- means for sending to said addressees an e-mail containing said e-mail's header and said e-mail's body after a predefined time period;
- 20 and
- deleting at said server said e-mail's header and said e-mail's body.

10/ A computer program, to be run in particular on a server according to claim 3, said computer program comprising computer program code

25 means adapted to perform following steps:

- storing the body of a received e-mail together with an access code;
- sending to each addressee of said e-mail a notification containing the access code for accessing said e-mail body;

- handling a status storage indicating at least whether said e-mail body has been accessed by one of said addressees; and
- if a modification message, dedicated to modify said e-mail body is received, modifying said e-mail body according to said modification message, if said e-mail body has not been accessed by any of said addressees.

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11/ A computer program comprising computer program code means adapted to perform following steps:

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- composing a modification message, dedicated to modify an e-mail addressed to at least one addressee and sent to a predefined server; and
- sending said modification message to said server;

when said program is run on a computer.

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12/ A personal computer equipped with a computer program according to claim 11.